

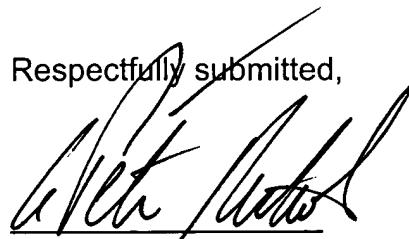
**REMARKS**

Applicants acknowledge that the Examiner has indicated that claims 14 and 27 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and intervening claims. Claims 1, 17, and 30 have been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claims 14 and 27.

Applicants believe that the claims are patentable and request notification to that effect. If, for any reason, the Examiner feels that the above amendments and remarks do not put the claims in condition for allowance, the undersigned attorney can be reached at (312) 321-4276 to resolve any remaining issues.

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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Peter Nichols', is written over a horizontal line.

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